

Helicopter Replacement

FY2003 Request: \$750,000
Reference No: 35930

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
Election District: Statewide
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2002 - 06/30/2007

Project Type: Equipment
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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Replace one law enforcement helicopter.

Funding:

	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	Total
Gen Fund	\$750,000						\$750,000
Total:	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$750,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	13,660	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	13,660	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

There have been no direct appropriations for purchase of aircraft since FY1993. However, four bills allowed for the sale of old aircraft and the purchase of new aircraft with the proceeds.

Sec 11, Ch 61, SLA 2001, Page 74 - The amount of revenue yet unknown.

Sec 7(b), Ch 135, SLA 2000, Page 66 - \$284.7 was realized in this sale.

Sec 83(b), Ch 2, SLA 1999, Page 34 - \$348.8 presently realized in this sale.

Sec 65, Ch 123, SLA 1996, Page 28 - \$1,130.0 was realized in this sale.

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Eurocopter A-Star Class Helicopter

\$750,000 in general funds, along with the proceeds from the sale of a helicopter which no longer meets our needs, would be used to purchase one used Eurocopter A-Star 350 B 2 Class Helicopter. The Eurocopter will be used for high altitude search and rescue, transportation of tactical law enforcement personnel and cargo throughout the state, and high altitude Fish and Wildlife case investigations.

PROJECT NEED STATEMENT

The Department of Public Safety is requesting authority in the FY2003 capital appropriation bill to allow us to sell three aircraft and use the proceeds to purchase replacements or other aircraft related items. Proceeds from a portion of these sales will provide the additional funding required for this specific project.

The 1982 Bell 206L-3 Long Ranger helicopter ("Helo 1") on skids and the 1995 Robinson R-22 Mariner helicopter on floats are no longer adequate to meet the present and future needs of this Department. These two aircraft will be sold, and need to be replaced. We are also proposing to sell a 1983 twin-engine Navajo, N4106A, fixed wing aircraft, and use the proceeds from that sale towards the purchase of a replacement when full funding for the replacement is identified.

"Helo 1", is inadequate for the evolving nature of police related helicopter missions and rescues, and it is the aircraft that will be replaced by this Eurocopter A-Star 350 B 2 Class Helicopter. More and more high altitude and glacial rescues require a more powerful aircraft. "Helo 1", as equipped, is too heavy and under-powered to provide reliable high altitude deployments of rescue personnel. It also is incapable of fully deploying State Trooper emergency teams.

DOCUMENTATION OF ESTIMATED CAPITAL COST

Current market price provided by Aircraft Marketing, Inc., Las Vegas, Nevada estimates that a used Eurocopter A-Star B 2 Class Helicopter and all its necessary optional equipment is approximately \$1,100,000. These options include: dual controls, sand and snow prevention filter, belly & fin strobe lights, right sliding door with Hi-Vis door windows, collective barrier - non EMS, airframe fuel filter, Spectrolab SX-16 night sun searchlight, single stowable litter, wirestrike protection system, emergency floatation, cargo swing with dynamometer, tail rotor guard, and FLIR 7000.

ANALYSIS OF ESTIMATED INCREASED OPERATIONAL COST

Eurocopter A-Star Class Helicopter

Estimated operating costs for the Eurocopter A-Star 350 B-2 are based on 300 flight hours per year and the operating costs of our current Bell 206L-3 helicopter as documented over the past two years. The estimated operating costs for the Eurocopter A-Star 350 B-2 are \$495 per hour for a total of \$148,500 per year. This includes the flight training for two pilots to attend the manufacturer's one-week flight training cost in Grand Prairie, Texas. This compares to approximately \$137,700 per year (for the same 300 flight hours) for the current Bell 206L-3 helicopter.

Travel:	\$970 airfare	\$ 970
Per Diem:	\$270 x 7 days	<u>1,890</u>
	subtotal	\$ 2,860
Contractual/Supplies:	\$495/hour x 300 hrs.	\$148,500
Less Bell 206L-3 Op Costs:	\$459/hour x <300> hrs.	<u><137,700></u>
	subtotal	<u>10,800</u>
TOTAL		\$ 13,660

IDENTIFICATION OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 1 Continue to use existing modes of transportation. The Department of Public Safety could continue to use the existing Bell 206L-3 and continue with its limited capabilities.
- 2 Charter a helicopter as needed: department operating dollars are limited for charters and many times helicopters are simply not available for charter on the short notice emergency conditions dictate.